

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 22-32 are allowed and claims 8-10, 12, 13, 19, and 20 are allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 1-37 are pending in the instant application. Claims 1-7, 11, 14-18, 21, and 33 presently stand rejected. Claims 1, 8, 11, and 12 are amended herein. Claims 34-37 are newly presented. Entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-7 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Ooishi (US 6,404,258).

A claim is anticipated only if each and every element of the claim is found in a single reference. M.P.E.P. § 2131 (citing *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628 (Fed. Cir. 1987)). “The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the claim.” M.P.E.P. § 2131 (citing *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1989)).

Amended independent claim 1 now recites, in pertinent part, “wherein the pull down path includes second and third transistors coupled in series to selectively couple the logic output to the rising edge delay circuit.” Applicants respectfully submit that Ooishi fails to disclose two transistors coupled in series to selectively couple a rising edge delay circuit to the recited logic output.

To be sure, the Examiner cites transistor 102b illustrated in FIG. 38 of Ooishi as corresponding to applications claimed pull down network (see, *Office Action* issued 10-4-05, page 3, line 3). If current sources ISb are considered by the Examiner to correspond to the claimed rising edge delay circuit, then Ooishi clearly fails to disclose second and third transistors coupled in series to selectively couple current sources ISb to node 101. Rather, FIG. 38 of Ooishi only discloses a single such transistor 102b.

Amended independent claim 11 now recites, in pertinent part,

...
a **logic circuit** including a logic input and a logic output;
a **first inverter** coupling the circuit input to the logic input;
a pull up path coupled to the logic output;

a pull down path coupled to the logic output; and
an **second inverter** coupling the logic output to the circuit output; and
a falling edge delay circuit coupled to the pull down path to control delay of a falling edge of the reference signal; and
a rising edge delay circuit coupled to the pull up path to control delay of a rising edge of the reference signal.

Applicants respectfully submit that Ooishi fails to disclose the claimed first inverter coupling the circuit input to the logic input.

To be sure, FIG. 38 of Ooishi illustrates a single delay stage DLAi. Delay stage DLAi does not disclose the claimed first inverter coupling a circuit input to a logic input of a logic circuit. In the Office Action issued 10/4/05, the Examiner cites elements 100b-100c of inverting circuit IVa as collectively corresponding to Applicants' claimed logic circuit and input DIN as corresponding to the claimed circuit input. However, FIG. 38 clearly fails to disclose an inverter coupled between DIN and circuit elements 100b-100c.

Consequently, Ooishi fails to disclose each and every element of amended claims 1 and 11, as required under M.P.E.P. § 2131. Accordingly, Applicants request that the instant §102 rejections of claims 1 and 11 be withdrawn.

The dependent claims are novel over the prior art of record for at least the same reasons as discussed above in connection with their respective independent claims, in addition to adding further limitations of their own. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the instant § 102 rejections for the dependent claims be withdrawn.

Statement of Common Ownership

The present patent application and Patent No. 6,928,572 to Fletcher et al., were, at the time the invention of the present application was made, owned by or subject to an obligation of assignment to Intel Corporation of Santa Clara, California.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 14-18, 21, and 33 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ooishi in view of Fletcher et al. (US 6,928,572).

“Subject matter developed by another person, which qualifies as prior art only under one or more of subsection (e), (f), and (g) of section 102 of this title, **shall not preclude patentability under this section** where the subject matter and the claimed invention were, at the time the invention was made, owned by the same person or subject to an obligation of assignment to the same person.” 35 U.S.C. § 103(c) (emphasis added).

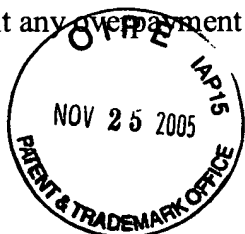
Applicants kindly bring to the attention of the Examiner that both Fletcher and the instant application were at the time the present invention was made, both owned by or under an obligation of assignment to Intel Corporation of Santa Clara, California. Therefore, pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 103(c), Fletcher may not be relied upon to preclude patentability under § 103(a). Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the instant § 103(a) rejections of claims 14-18, 21, and 33 be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants believe the applicable rejections have been overcome and all claims remaining in the application are presently in condition for allowance. Accordingly, favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned representative at (206) 292-8600 if the Examiner believes that an interview might be useful for any reason.

CHARGE DEPOSIT ACCOUNT

It is not believed that extensions of time are required beyond those that may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, if additional extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a). Any fees required therefore are hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 02-2666. Please credit any overpayment to the same deposit account.



Date: Nov. 21, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cory", written over a solid horizontal line.

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